1	2	3	4	5
12	M/s. I.T C Ltd., Calcutta .	31 51	49 81	N.A.
13	M/s M J Exports Ltd., Bombay .	42 23	44 50	35 63
14	M/s Century Textiles & Industries Ltd., Bombay	76 58	76 24	99 92
15	M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd , New Delhi	16 52	19 25	28 68
16	M/s National AG CO-OP Mkt Fed of India Ltd., New Delhi .	17 98	20 26	N A.
17	M/s Everest Gems, Bombay	(—)3 74	14 50	9 69
18	M/s Ganapati Exports Ltd , Calcutta .	62 08	56 50	66·78
19	M/s A Tosh & Sons, Calcutta . .	47 98	41 07	77 43
20	M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd , Bombay .	64 26	46 10	N A.

NOTE N A means Not Available

Recognition given under star trading houses scheme

858 DR YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that only a few business houses are eligible for recognition under the newly introduced star trading houses scheme in the Import-Export Policy for 1990—95, and

(b) if so, how many business houses have so far been recognised under the Scheme and how many are likely to be recognised in 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b) Six applications were received for the grant of Star Trading House Certificates till 31-12-1990, the last date of filing such applications. Of these, one has been rejected as the applicant did not fulfil the eligibility criteria Two applicants have been *prima facie* found eligible for issue of Star Trading House Certificates. The remaining three applications are being examined.

Export of pepper to the United States

859 DR YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of pepper to the United States has sharply come down because of the stringent quality control measures imposed by the U S. Authority, FDA;

(b) whether it is also a fact that US authorities have found rodent and bird excreta in Indian pepper;

(c) if so, how much substandard pepper was exported under quality control labels issued by Government authorities; and

(d) what steps are being taken to regain the US market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL) (a) Decline in export of pepper to USA was mainly due to stiff competition from other producing countries

(b) to (d) According to the Export Inspection Council, since May, 1988 only one consignment of Black Pepper valued at

US$ 410416 was rejected. On investigation, it was found that the concerned Export Inspection Agency followed the Agmark sampling scheme as it was not aware of US FDA sampling Immediately purpose *vis-a-vis* mixed extraction vised to adopt US FDA sampling scheme for pre-shipment inspection of black pepper for export to USA.

The Spices Board is taking various steps to step up the quality of spices and improve packaging and marketing

Export of high valued white natural grade Sesamum

860. SHRI VIREN J SHAH
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) what is Government's planning to promote exports of high valued white natural grade sesamum used for food and confectionery and hulled grade for bakely purpose *vis-a-vis* mixed extraction grade;

(b) whether it is fact that a few overseas buyers have imposed restrictions on import of sesamum from India on quality consideration, and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to evolve a mechanism for ensuring quality in exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL) (a) Export of sesamum seed, without distinction of different grades, is allowed under OGL subject to registration with Indian Oil and Produce Exporters Association (IOPEA)

(b) Government have not received reports of overseas buyer countries having imposed restrictions on import of sesamum from India on quality considerations IOPEA have also reported that they have not received any complaint of such restrictions by overseas buyers

(c) Does not arise

Disowning the FIR filed in Bofors Investigation Case

861 SHRI E. BALANANDAN. Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state

(a) whether instructions were issued to the Additional Solicitor General to disown the FIR filed by the CBI in the Bofors Investigation Case before the Delhi High Court;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the reply to (a) above be in negative, the reasons for opposing the CBI's FIR?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) The Government did not oppose CBI's FIR

Loss incurred by co-operative credit societies due to implementation of loan waiver scheme

862. SHRI M M. JACOB: Will he Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Loan Waiver Scheme has hit the co-operative credit societies to the tune of several thousand crores of rupees,

(b) if so, what is the amount compensated to the co-operative societies by Government, and

(c) whether the scheme is still in vogue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF